

REMARKS

The Office Action indicated that the subject matter of Claims 10 and 15-17 would be allowed if the technical rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 to address the non-functional issues was resolved.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Jung for the courtesy of a telephone conference on the 35 U.S.C. §101 issue. Applicant indicated that it was going to provide an output unit configured to output the results of one of the processes performed by the information security apparatus, namely outputting encrypted text, a decrypted cypher text, a signature data, a verification result, and a shared key.

Thus, independent Claims 10 and 15 are believed to more than adequately provide a physical transformation and a concrete useful and tangible result, even though a number of hardware and software elements could be utilized to implement both the apparatus and the method, with a computer reconfigured by software instructions. The advantageous features of providing tangible encrypted or decrypted data, signature verification and transmission of a shared key are all valuable, useful, concrete and tangible results that are highly appropriate in the current electronic age where such valuable electronic data is submitted on an open global computer network in a secured manner.

Thus, if someone transacts business for example, with a financial institution and wishes to secure the financial information and to verify such a user, our security apparatus provides a manner of securely handling this transmission information in the specific manner as defined in our claims.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for bringing to its attention the MPEP §2106 IV(C)(2)(1) and (2). As such, applicant is providing a useful result in securing information in the

electronic age and accomplishes this result by having a tangible output of acting upon the information to maintain a secure status.

Additionally, a concrete result is obtained in the output of such secured information that can be repetitively replicated in accordance with the teaching of the present invention and as defined in our output unit in our respective claims.

In summary, applicant has addressed the 35 U.S.C. §101 issue for providing an output unit in Claim 10 and an outputting step in Claim 15 to provide a useful form of processed information to enable a secure use of such information. These claims do not add any new matter, and accordingly should be allowable.

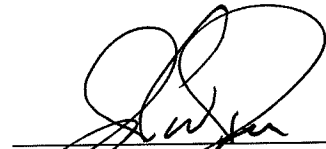
Additionally, the reminder corrections in respective Claims 10 and 15 should place the Claims in better format for allowance.

With the submission of these amendments to the claims, it is believed that the case is now in condition for allowance and an early notification of the same is requested.

If the Examiner has any questions with regards to this matter, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone conference.

Very truly yours,

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Price', is written over a horizontal line.

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